

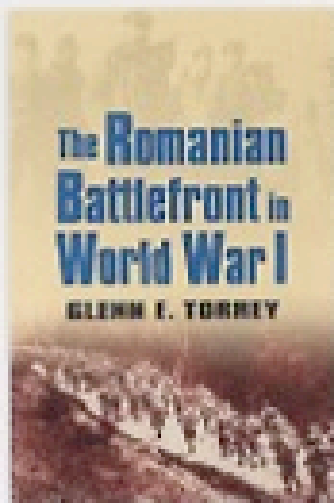
Obituary: Glenn E. Torrey

Glenn E. Torrey (1930-2022)

Participants involved in international Romanian Studies will be saddened to hear that perhaps the last of the giants of the first generation of American scholars specializing in Romania passed away over the 2022 Fourth of July weekend. Dr. Glenn E. Torrey, Professor Emeritus of Emporia State in Kansas, was the third Fulbright fellow to Romania in 1961, joining Keith Hitchins and Frederick Kellogg who had come in 1960. Prof. Torrey was born December 4, 1930 and passed away in Seattle July 3, 2022. He completed all three of his degrees at the University of Oregon, including the Ph.D in 1960 with Gordon Wright, before going to Iron Curtain Romania in 1961. He spent his entire teaching career at Emporia State University in Kansas.



Prof. Torrey's primary interest was in Romania during the First World War, a virtual black hole of research, but his tireless work in Romanian, French, British, Austrian, Italian, Russian, and American archives, produced string of impressive articles (many of them collected in 1998 in *Romania and World War I*), and books, capped in 2012 by his *The Romanian Battlefield in World War I* (published in Romania in 2014 as *România în Primul Război Mondial*). This book made Prof. Torrey the leading international expert on Romania in World War One. He also was responsible for uncovering the memoirs and papers of General Henri Berthelot, which he published in 1987 as *General Henri Berthelot and Romania: Mémoires et Correspondance 1916-1919* (Romanian edition 2012: *Generalul Henri Berthelot: Memorii și Corespondența 1916-1919*). His work with the Berthelot papers resulted in another important monograph, *Henri Mathias Berthelot: Soldier of France, Defender of Romania* (2001).



Prof. Torrey was also a pioneer contributor to the development of Romanian Studies in the US. He was a close friend and collaborator with Prof. Keith Hitchins who edited and published the journal *Romanian Studies* (1970-1986). The journal was born out of conversations between Hitchins, Torrey, and Petru Comarnescu. It was motivated by the desire (in the words of Prof. Hitchins) "to extend the scope of collaboration to include new work being done on both sides of the Atlantic," effectively breaching the Iron Curtain for Romanian scholars. Prof. Torrey was a member of the editorial board of the journal throughout its existence and contributed several valuable articles. In addition, Prof. Torrey was a founding member in 1973 of the Society for Romanian Studies (then called the Romanian Studies Group) and for many years served on the SRS board. He was particularly effective in fostering scholarly relationships between Western academics and their Romanian colleagues in Bucharest, Iași, and Cluj, where he was a welcome visitor to the historical institutes in those cities.

Glenn Torrey will be remembered as a genial and ironic scholar, an indefatigable and exhaustive explorer of archives and libraries, always an encourager of students and colleagues alike, a devoted friend of Romanian culture, history, and civilization, and a man of impeccable integrity and a vibrant Christian faith.

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